TO: ALI Board

FROM: Julie Miller (Butler), Dan Bowell (Taylor), & Andy Smith (IUPUI)

DATE: Nov. 12, 2013

SUBJECT: Investigation into new URL and Web hosting for ALI

We were tasked by the ALI board to identify: 1) alternative URLs for ALI that are shorter and more intuitive than the current http://ali.bsu.edu, and 2) alternative Web hosting sites that are affordable and easy to maintain by ALI members no matter their home institutions.

1) Alternative URLs

- We confirmed that www.ali.org is held by the American Law Institute and therefore not available.
- We confirmed with Educause that the .edu domain is only available to accredited institutions of higher ed and therefore not available to ALI.
- We identified some alternative URLs available through GoDaddy for $7.99:

ALIndiana.org
indianalibraries.org
academiclibrariesindiana.org

2) Andy Smith from IUPUI did a thorough review of hosting sites. He first identified low cost host sites that appeared on several “top ten” lists, and then filtered for those with unlimited storage, unlimited bandwidth, and domain parking (for URL licensed from another source). He then compared the features (e.g., scripting, databases, and content management systems supported, secure access) of this short list of hosting sites. (See Web host comparison worksheet.) From this comparison, Andy recommends DreamHost, BlueHost, or justHost.